

Queer docs come to town

The American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, based in San Francisco, will be holding its annual conference August 19-21 in Portland. This is typically one of the largest gatherings each year of lesbian and gay physicians and medical students.

The selection of Portland as the site of the conference is in part a "thank you" to Oregon voters for rejecting Ballot Measure 9, as well as a gathering in a part of the country which has never hosted the AAPHR.

The conference was originally to be held in Denver, Colo., but the Association board voted against the location after Coloradans passed Amendment 2. Members of the AAPHR will meet at the Benson Hotel.

Don't let dogs swim there

On July 20th, Conant & Conant Booksellers presented Don Francis of Northwest Environment Advocates in a talk titled "Columbia River—Troubled Waters: A Look at the Human Impacts and Challenges." Francis' discussion included a display of the new map of the Columbia River Basin produced by Columbia/Willamette RiverWatch. RiverWatch's pilot programs in the Portland schools showed that Oregon children know more about the Mississippi than about the Columbia—and not many adults can do better than that. Francis gave examples of some of the troubles threatening Columbia's waters: there are 211 major dams in the Basin; 67 sub-species of salmon are extinct due to the Grand Coulee and Hells Canyon dams; children and fish are being affected by heavy metal contamination; and logging and road building practices are devastating the ecosystems of the forests and the water. Did you know the Columbia is called "the most radioactive river in the world" and is virtually unmonitored?

The RiverWatch map presents the history of the Columbia, and information on the challenges ahead. RiverWatch is a program of the Northwest Environmental Advocates, offering hands-on activities such as tours of the Lower Columbia River, the Willamette River, and the Columbia Slough.

A picnic with CAP

People with HIV, friends, and family are all invited to Cascade AIDS Project's Picnic in the Park, on Sunday, August 22nd at Washington Park. The picnic will last from 1 to 5 pm. Bring your suntan lotion, something to eat, and your good humor to the Sacajawea Statue at the Northwest end of the Park. Grills and drinks will be provided, and no ants guaranteed!

MRG supports youth

The Oregon Sexual Minority Youth Network recently received news of a \$4,000 grant from McKenzie River Gathering Foundation, and is a finalist for a \$7,500 grant from the Funding Exchange Foundation. OSMYN's purpose is to pull together diverse Oregonians of all ages to support social change and sexual minority youth. The organization helps call public attention to the strengths and needs of sexual minority youth, as well as advocating for public policy to allow sexual minority youth to choose their own futures. It coordinates the efforts of people or organizations sharing the common values of equity, justice, and public education.

The grants awarded to OSMYN will permit implementation of three specific projects in the Portland area: Youth Mobilization (outreach, promoting socialization, and meaningful involvement in financial and other decisions); Commu-

nity Education (heightening public awareness of the existence, needs and strengths of sexual minority youth, pulling together racial diversities to implement affirmative social changes); and Training and Employment (skill empowerment of sexual minority youth in a multicultural environment, training for youth activists).

Staff support is "loaned" to OSMYN by the Multnomah County Housing and Community Services Division and the Multnomah County Children and Youth Services Commission. Membership is open to all willing to contribute their time or talents. Contact number is: (503) 248-5464.

Hotline for nonprofits

Do you work for a nonprofit, either as a board member or staff, and have questions you can't get answers to? The United Way of Columbia-Willamette is now funding the Nonprofit Organizations Information and Referral Hotline: 233-9240.

The hotline is part of an \$85,000 contract to Technical Assistance for Community Services. TACS and United Way have designed the hotline to target small nonprofit organizations and their boards, but is available to any nonprofit human service organization. In addition, UW dollars will provide initial funding for a new Technical Assistance Fund. Smaller nonprofits with annual budgets of under \$250,000 will be eligible to receive grants covering 75 percent of costs related to training or consultation services. Larger organizations may receive grants covering 50 percent of the cost.

Helping the victim

State Representative Avel Gordly (D-Portland), is still pushing in the last days of the 67th legislative session for passage of a bill which would establish a confidential bias-crime reporting system in Oregon. The bill, HB 3598, would authorize the Oregon State Police Bureau of Criminal Identification to set up an 800-number hotline for confidential use for victims of hate crimes. Gordly's bill calls on the department to encourage local law enforcement to report any bias-crime complaints, many of which go unreported.

According to the Law Enforcement Data System in the state's Criminal Justice Services Division, hate crimes in Oregon have increased from last year to over 12 percent in the first six months of 1992.

Leather pride week

The National Leather Association of Portland and the Knights of Malta, Cascade Chapter, are co-sponsoring Leather Pride Week, Aug. 14-22. Events include three meet-and-greets, two leather title contests, and a barbecue.

The week of events kicks off Saturday, Aug. 14 at the Dirty Duck Tavern, at a meet-and-greet to welcome contestants and guests to the Mr./Ms. National Leather Association of Portland 1994 Contest. The contest will be held Sunday, Aug. 15, at Darcelle XV at 8 pm. International Mr. Leather Lenny Broberg and Ms. National Leather Association K.T. Chase will be in attendance.

The second meet-and-greet will give people a chance to get to know the winners of the Mr./Ms. National Leather Association titles on Friday, Aug. 20 at the Dirty Duck.

The third meet-and-greet welcomes contestants and guests to the Knights of Malta Leatherman/Leatherwoman 1993 contest. The contest will be held at Darcelle XV on Sunday, Aug. 22 at 7:30 pm.

A potluck barbeque takes place Wednesday, Aug. 18. Call 727-3148 for location and more information about any of these events.

Compiled by Grant Michael Menzies

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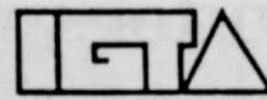
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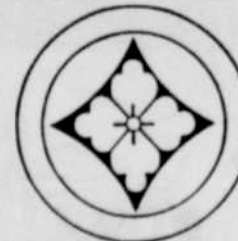
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